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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,643	06/23/2003	Eduard Erhardt	2454.1093	6122
21171 7590 02/02/2010 STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005				
EXAMINER				
PATEL, CHIRAG R				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2454				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
02/02/2010		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/600,643

**Applicant(s)**

ERHARDT, EDUARD

**Examiner**

CHIRAG R. PATEL

**Art Unit**

2454

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 November 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/GS/US)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on November 16, 2009 has been entered.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed November 16, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argues that receipt of data from data communications network is limited to the first computer and transmission of data to the data communications network is limited to the second computer. As argued previously, this is completely different from Ofek's isolating the second data storage facility from the first data storage facility is during backup operation.

In response, Ofek discloses a computer to computer connection between the first and the second computer through a remote link directors as shown in Figure 1: items: 30 and 33. There is also shown a computer-to-network connection to connect both the first and second computer to the data communication network as shown in Ofek per Col 5 lines 44-51, "FIG. 1 depicts a data processing network comprising two essentially

identical data processing systems that include a local system 10 and a geographically remote system 11” In response to applicant’s arguments that isolation in Ofek is between a first computer and a second computer, examiner notes that that above passages show a link through a data processing network that connect the local and geographic remote system.

Applicant argues that Ofek fails to disclose “receipt of any data from the data communications network is limited to the first computer” and “transmission of any data to the communication network is limited to the second computer” and Ofek is directed to isolation the first and second data storage facility and that isolation is performed only temporarily , during a backup operation.

Examiner notes that while the backup operating mode is enabled, the second data facility to backup data to the backup facility to enhance data integrity while the first data storage utility records the changes to its data. After the backup to the backup facility (3<sup>rd</sup> data storage facility) is completed , there is still a connection (physical and actual) communication between the first and second data storage facility. This does not change the fact that Ofek discloses that transmission of data is limited from the first computer to the second data storage facility as the second data storage facility only serves as a mirror to the first data storage facility for the purposes of protecting the data.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 and 8-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ofek (US 6,549,921) in view of Touboul (US 6,480,962).

As per claim 1, Ofek discloses a computer system connected to a data communications network, comprising:

a first computer; (Col 4 lines 1-22; first data storage facility)

a second, redundant computer that is independent of the first computer; (Col 4 lines 1-22; second data storage facility)

a computer-to-computer connection between the first computer and the second computer (Figure 1: items: 30 and 33 )enabling the first computer is configured to match with the second computer by comparing a first work result of the first computer with a second work result of the second computer; (Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10; Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 31; Figure 6: item 101: both local and remote system generate a status (work result) of the corresponding track; Figure 6: items 102, 106 performs the comparison process of the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> work result; Fig. 6: item 110 ; Col 11 lines 28-32, resynchronizes system based on value of the vector) and

at least one computer-to-network connection to connect both the first and second computers to the data communications network independent from the computer-to-computer connection so that (Col 5 lines 44-51) receipt of any data from the data communications network is limited to the first computer; (Col 3 lines 65-67; provide a method and apparatus for backing up data in a remote data facility that is fully transparent to operations at a local site)

and transmission of any data to the data communications network is limited to the second computer; (Col 3 lines 56-60; second disk storage facility for operating normally as a mirror for the first disk storage facility)

wherein at least an initial processing of the data received from the data communications network is limited to the first computer; and (Col 8 lines 17-29; For purposes of this description, it is assumed that the host system 13 issues a Channel Control Word (CCW) command including all the necessary parameters from which the system can transfer a data block to or from a particular location in the storage device sets 15 and 16. Other operating systems use other procedures.)

Ofek fails to disclose wherein the first computer is configured to convert, transmit to and store in the second computer non-verified or non-verifiable data received by the first computer only in non-processable form. Touboul discloses converting non-verified or non-verifiable data received by the first computer in non-processable form. (Col 6 lines 4-21) At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to convert, transmit to and store in the second

computer non-verified or non-verifiable data received by the first computer only in non-processable form in the disclosure of Ofek. The motivation for doing do would have been to protect clients from hostile downloadables. (Col 2 lines 24-31)

As per claim 2, Ofek / Touboul disclose the method of claim 1. Ofek discloses further the computer system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first computer is configured to verify the received data in the first computer, and wherein the first computer is configured to supply only verified data to the second computer in processable form. (Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 20)

As per claim 3, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses wherein the first computer and the second computer are configured to independently verify the received data, and wherein only matching verified data are stored in the second computer in processable form. (Col 11 lines 20-27)

As per claim 4, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses further comprising: a central data memory, (Col 7 lines 5-16)  
wherein direct access to internal data of the computer system contained in a central data memory is limited to the second computer; and (Col 4 lines 23-41)  
wherein the first computer is configured to receive the internal data only upon request via the second computer. (Col 7 lines 5-16)

As per claims 5 and 21, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses further comprising the computer system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: an independent, redundant third computer; and (Col 11 lines 45-67)

wherein the second computer is configured to match with the third computer by comparing the second work result of the second computer with a third work result of the third computer. (Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10; Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 20)

As per claim 6, Ofek discloses a method, comprising:

producing a first work result representing the verified data; (Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10)

forwarding the verified data in processable form and the non-verified data in the non- processable form from the first computer to a second computer; (Col 3 lines 65-67; provide a method and apparatus for backing up data in a remote data facility that is fully transparent to operations at a local site) via a computer-to-computer connection (Figure 1: items 30, 33)

in the second computer, independently verifying the verified data forwarded from the first computer and producing a second work result based on the independent verification; comparing the first work result with the second work result; (Col 7 line 64 – Col 8 line 10; Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 20; resynchronizes system based on valid bit patterns (work result) of local and remote system)

if the first work result and the second work result match, storing the verified data in the second computer, (Col 11 lines 28-32) and limiting receipt of any data from the



data communication network to the first computer and (Col 3 lines 65-67; provide a method and apparatus for backing up data in a remote data facility that is fully transparent to operations at a local site)

limiting transmission of any data to the data communications network to the second computer. (Col 3 lines 56-60; second disk storage facility for operating normally as a mirror for the first disk storage facility) via at least one computer-to-network connection independent of the computer-to-computer connection (Col 5 lines 44-51)

Ofek fails to disclose in a first computer , classifying data received from a data communications network as verified data and non-verified data, converting the non-verified data into a non-processable form by the first computer. Touboul discloses in a first computer , classifying data received from a data communications network as verified data and non-verified data, converting the non-verified data into a non-processable form by the first computer. (Col 6 lines 4-21) At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to disclose in a first computer , classifying data received from a data communications network as verified data and non-verified data, converting the non-verified data into a non-processable form by the first computer. The motivation for doing do would have been to protect clients from hostile downloadables. (Col 2 lines 24-31)

As per claim 8, Ofek / Touboul disclose the method of claim 6. Ofek discloses wherein only the second computer directly accesses internal data contained in a central

data memory, and wherein the first computer indirectly accesses the internal data only upon request via the second computer. (Col 7 lines 5-16)

As per claim 9, Ofek / Touboul disclose the method of claim 6. Ofek discloses the method of claim 6, further comprising matching the second work result of the second computer with a third work result of a third computer. ( Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10; Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 20; Col 11 lines 56-67)

As per claims 10 and 16, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses wherein connection between the first computer and the second computer forms an internal network of the computer system and wherein the data communications network is an external network with respect to the computer system. (Col 1 lines 44-51, Col 3 lines 44-54)

As per claim 11, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses wherein the first computer independently verifies the received data producing the first work result and wherein the second computer independently verifies the received data producing the second work result. (Col 7 line 64 – Col 8 line 10)

As per claim 12, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses wherein data processed by the first computer produces the first work result and wherein data processed by the second computer produces the second work result. (Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10)

As per claim 13, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 12. Ofek discloses wherein the first and second work results are produced by executing at least one of horizontal parity checks and parallel balancing. (Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 20)

As per claims 14 and 19, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses wherein said matching by the first computer with the second computer is performed at an end of a program or when memory is being accessed. (Col 4 lines 1-22; Upon completion of the backup operation, the copy program is enabled to copy data blocks from the first data storage facility to the second data storage facility corresponding to the recorded identifications thereby reestablishing the second data storage facility as a mirror of the first data storage facility)

As per claims 15 and 20, Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 1. Ofek discloses wherein all of the initial processing is performed by the first computer. (Col 4 lines 1-22)

As per claim 17, Ofek / Touboul disclose the method as claimed in claim 6. Ofek discloses wherein the first computer independently verifies the received data producing the first work result and wherein the second computer independently verifies the received data producing the second work result. (Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10)

As per claim 18, Ofek / Touboul disclose the method as claimed in claim 6. Ofek discloses wherein data processed by the first computer produces the first work result and wherein data processed by the second computer produces the second work result. (Col 7 line 64 – Col 8 line 10)

As per claim 22, Ofek / Touboul disclose the method as claimed in claim 21. Ofek discloses wherein only the second and third computers have access to internal data of the computer system and wherein the third computer is configured to implement operation and monitoring of an automation system. (Col 7 lines 17-25)

As per claim 25, Ofek discloses a method, comprising:  
producing a first work result representing the verified data; (Col 7 line 64-Col 8 line 10)

forwarding the verified data in processable form and the non-verified data in the non- processable form from the first computer to a second computer; (Col 3 lines 65-67;  
provide a method and apparatus for backing up data in a remote data facility that is fully

transparent to operations at a local site) via a computer-to-computer connection (Figure 1: items 30, 33)

in the second computer, independently verifying the verified data forwarded from the first computer and producing a second work result based on the independent verification; comparing the first work result with the second work result; (Col 7 line 64 – Col 8 line 10; Col 10 line 66-Col 11 line 20; resynchronizes system based on valid bit patterns (work result) of local and remote system)

if the first work result and the second work result match, storing the verified data in the second computer, (Col 11 lines 28-32) and limiting receipt of any data from the data communication network to the first computer and (Col 3 lines 65-67; provide a method and apparatus for backing up data in a remote data facility that is fully transparent to operations at a local site)

limiting transmission of any data to the data communications network to the second computer. (Col 3 lines 56-60; second disk storage facility for operating normally as a mirror for the first disk storage facility) via at least one computer-to-network connection independent of the computer-to-computer connection (Col 5 lines 44-51)

wherein receipt of any data from the data communication network is limited to the first computer ((Col 3 lines 65-67; provide a method and apparatus for backing up data in a remote data facility that is fully transparent to operations at a local site) and wherein transmission of any data to the data communications network is limited to the second computer, and (Col 3 lines 56-60; second disk storage facility for operating normally as a mirror for the first disk storage facility)

wherein data received from the data communications network and data transmitted to the data communications network are limited without otherwise limiting forwarding of verified data in processable form and non-verified data in the non-processable form, (Col 3 lines 55-67) from the first computer to the second computer. (Figure 1: items 30, 33)

Ofek fails to disclose in a first computer , classifying data received from a data communications network as verified data and non-verified data, converting the non-verified data into a non-processable form by the first computer. Touboul discloses in a first computer , classifying data received from a data communications network as verified data and non-verified data, converting the non-verified data into a non-processable form by the first computer. (Col 6 lines 4-21) At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to disclose in a first computer , classifying data received from a data communications network as verified data and non-verified data, converting the non-verified data into a non-processable form by the first computer. The motivation for doing do would have been to protect clients from hostile downloadables. (Col 2 lines 24-31)

Claims 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ofek (US 6,549,921) / Touboul (US 6,480,962) further in view of Rowen et al. - hereinafter Shirley (US 6,567,869)

As per claims 23 and 24. Ofek / Touboul disclose the computer system as claimed in claim 5. Ofek fails to disclose wherein user inputs are supplied via a keyboard or a mouse in parallel to the first computer, the second computer and the third computer. Shirley discloses wherein user inputs are supplied via a keyboard or a mouse in parallel to the first computer, the second computer and the third computer. (Col 2 line 56-Col 3 line 11, Figure 1) At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ofek to disclose wherein user inputs are supplied via a keyboard or a mouse in parallel to the first computer, the second computer and the third computer. The motivation would have been to control multiple computers using a single keyboard and mouse. (Col 2 line 56-Col 3 line 11)

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chirag R Patel whose telephone number is (571)272-7966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00AM to 4:30PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn, can be reached on (571) 272-1915.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public

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/C. R. P./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2454  
/NATHAN FLYNN/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2454